

A Sustainable Program on Environmental Impact Statements in Dealing with Radioactive and Special Materials

Executive Summary

This proposal request is a continuation of a currently supported U.S. NRC educational grant for graduate study in the Environmental Impact Assessment involving nuclear materials. The first year of the educational program development was focused on the detailed design of 13 course modules that have an impact on the environment and human beings due to a nuclear project. The on-line distance learning tools such as "Second Life" and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) have been introduced and implemented in a couple of course modules to date. The proposed continuation project for the second year will be focused on testing through several successive pilot sessions for assessing its performance and improving its operational functioning by linking between Second Life and University College servers. A set of "evaluation criteria" will be established for assessing and making continual improvements of the educational modules, the linking between different disciplines course modules, and delivering distance learning tools. A preliminary student feedback assessment will be evaluated for both the curricular details and the methodologies employed, including "Second Life" as a distance learning educational tool.